

Global Link

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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 26, 10 a.m.
Lecture on the historic Blair House at the Department of State.

March 3, 6-8 p.m.
Art, "Argo" and History Again! With Kathleen Stafford at the Oakwood Apartments, Falls Church, VA.

March 4, 11 a.m.
Easter egg painting with the Foreign-Born Spouses group.

March 19, 10 a.m.
Panel discussion on Women's History Month, Department of State.

April 2
AAFSW Merit Scholarship deadline.

April 3, 1 p.m.
Discussion with author and retired CIA officer Tony Mendez of "Argo" fame, Department of State.

All events are subject to change. Please check our website, www.aafsw.org, Facebook page or contact office@aafsw.org for updates.



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Family Member Employment

Information and Resources

This is the second in a series on family member employment by Nicole Schaefer McDaniel. The first installment was featured in the February issue of Global Link.

As part of my series on family member employment, I have been engaged in many conversations with FS spouses/partners. It quickly became obvious to me that an important first step toward improving the employment situation is to take a closer look at the information we currently have on working family members. That information is summarized in this article, accompanied by important (and often overlooked) resources for spouses/partners who are seeking employment both at post and in the US. Most of the information comes from the Family Liaison Office (FLO). When possible, I include an Internet link.

What Do We (Not) Know about Family Member Employment?

FLO collects data twice a year on family member employment in the Family Member Employment Report (FAMER). The FAMER for each post is available on FLO's Intranet site and an overview of all posts, the "Worldwide Family Member Employment Report" is publicly available at <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/182647.pdf>.

The Report shows that last year, 11,462 spouses/partners were posted overseas. Twenty-six percent worked inside the Mission and 12 percent worked on the local economy. It is important to note that "spouses/partners" are defined as "adult family members on travel orders of a U.S. government employee assigned to an overseas post under Chief of Mission authority." In other words, statistics cited in the Report and the FAMER combine information on spouses/partners affiliated with any U.S. government department or agency.

Continued on page 4.

AAFSW Announces New 2013 Merit Scholarship

Eligibility: High school seniors (or gap year students) entering college in Fall 2013, whose families are part of the foreign affairs agency community. An immediate family member must be a current member of AAFSW at the time of application.

Deadline: April 2, 2013.

Amount: \$2,000

Criteria: Academic work, outside activities, test scores and an essay.

Please visit www.aafsw.org or email office@aafsw.org for an application form.

Volunteers Needed!

We need volunteers for several Board positions, our October Art & BookFair, and many other activities.

Join us in advocating for the Foreign Service community!

Details on page 2 of this issue or at www.aafsw.org.



From the President's Desk...

Patricia Linderman
president@aaafsw.org

Four Reasons Why I Volunteer for AAFSW

The appeal in this issue for new Board members and other volunteers inspired me to reflect on why I donate 10+ hours a week to AAFSW.

1) **This is an exciting time for the organization.** The popularity of Livelines (4450 participants and rising!), among many other initiatives and the hard work of our volunteers, is bringing us more members, visibility and influence.

2) **We are both inside and outside the system.** With our 52-year tradition representing and serving the Foreign Service community, AAFSW has excellent access and privileges within the State Department. Yet since we aren't a government office, we can get things done non-bureaucratically and advocate independently for our members.

3) **The people are terrific!** Foreign Service employees and family members are diverse, fascinating and world-wise people -- and the ones willing to devote some of their free time to helping others are my idea of the perfect colleagues.

4) **Our work makes a difference.** AAFSW volunteers work to make the FS community stronger by sharing information, speaking out, bringing people together, providing direct help through our many support groups, and in many, many other ways. That's something I want to be a part of. I hope you do too!

Art, Argo and History - Again!

Due to the popularity of the recent art exhibit and discussion with Kathleen Stafford, we have organized a follow-up event. Join us on **Sunday, March 3**, from 6-8 p.m. in the Capitol Room at Oakwood Falls Church, 501 Roosevelt Blvd, Falls Church, VA 22044, for a fascinating presentation. Visit www.aaafsw.org for more information.

Join the AAFSW Team!

Are you in DC or returning this summer? Want to use some of your free time to make a real difference in the Foreign Service community, while making new friends? Volunteer for AAFSW, either as an elected Board member or to help with Art & BookFair!

AAFSW elections will be held in May. The nominating committee is now seeking candidates for all positions. We also need a full team in place for October's Art & BookFair to start preparations.

The following positions are available:

President. Represents AAFSW within and outside the State Department and provides general leadership to the organization.

1st Vice President. Represents AAFSW when the President is not available; works with the President to develop and carry out new initiatives; and chairs the finance committee.

2nd Vice President. Helps with decision-making, communication and projects; chairs the nominating committee.

Secretary. Attends Board meetings and prepares accurate minutes; helps with decision-making and projects.

Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. Oversee the budget and all financial transactions; prepare financial and tax reports; serve on the finance committee.

Art & BookFair Co-Chair. Work with current Co-Chair Judy Felt to organize AAFSW's wildly popular October fundraising event at the Department of State, where employees, family members and local booklovers crowd in to buy used and rare books, collectibles and arts and crafts from all over the world!

Art & BookFair Volunteer Coordinator. An easy part-year job for anyone who is well-organized and a good communicator. Work with the A&BF Co-Chairs to recruit and schedule workers for the Fair.

Do you want to help, but you are currently overseas, or don't feel ready to fill one of the positions above? We can still use your talents! In DC, volunteers are always needed for BookPlace and the Housing Office. Other areas where we need support include publicity, social media, diversity outreach, crisis support, Eligible Family Member employment advocacy, EFM entrepreneur support, and many more. Have fun, gain experience and help your community—join us today!

Questions? Contact office@aaafsw.org or call 703-820-5420.

March Program: Women's History Month

AAFSW cordially invites you to participate in our fifth annual Women's History Month joint panel discussion. "Perspective on Women's Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st Century" will be presented in conjunction with the Woman's National Democratic Club (WNDC) on **Tuesday, March 19, 2013** in the Benjamin Franklin Room on the 8th floor at the Department of State from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

The panel will feature several accomplished women who have contributed to advancing women's causes in important ways.



Ambassador Maura Harty served 27 years as a Foreign Service officer with the U.S. Department of State. During her last five years of service, she was the Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs, the bureau charged with protection of American citizens abroad, passport issuance to U.S. citizens and the provision of visa services to foreign

nationals.

Previously, Ambassador Harty served as Special Assistant to Secretary of State George P. Shultz, Executive Assistant to Secretary Warren Christopher, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Paraguay and Executive Secretary of the Department of State under Secretary Colin Powell.

Since retiring, Ambassador Harty has served as Senior Policy Director and Director of the Koons Family Institute on International Law and Policy at the Alexandria, VA-based International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children.

Dr. Rangita de Silva de Alwis is the Director of the Global Women's Leadership Initiative at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC. In this role, she leads all women's initiatives at the Wilson Center, including the Women in Public Service Project and the Council of Women World Leaders.

Dr. de Alwis is a former Director of the International Human Rights Policy and the Inaugural Susan McGee Bailey Scholar programs at the Wellesley Centers for Women. She has worked with a vast network of civil society and government organizations to develop innovative women's rights and human rights initiatives around the world. Her work and

teaching have focused on using international human rights norms to guide law reform initiatives. She has helped convene national and regional alliances including the Women's Watch in China; the Asia Cause Lawyers Network in India; the Gender and Law Network in China; and the Women's Leadership Network in the Muslim World.



Dr. de Alwis is an advisor to the Secretariat for the U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. She has published widely on gender, human rights and law reform in United Nations publications and law review journals.

There will be one other speaker, to be announced.

Please use the coupon on page 7 of this issue to reserve your seat for this program, or RSVP and pay online at www.aafsw.org. The RSVP deadline is **Thursday, March 14.**

Sheila Switzer
AAFSW Program Chair
programs@aafsm.org

Celebrate Easter with the Foreign-Born Spouses!

The members of AAFSW's Foreign Born Spouses Group cordially invite you to an Easter Lunch accompanied by a fun class in Easter egg painting. This event will take place at a private home in Springfield, VA, on Monday, March 4, 2013 at 11 a.m.

For more information, please visit www.aafsw.org or email fbspouses@aafsw.org.



Ana Luisa Gallardo
Foreign Born Spouses Group Chair
fbspouses@aafsm.org

Bureau	Family Members at Post	Working Inside Mission %	Working Outside Mission %	Total Family Members at Post Working %
African Affairs	1385	35%	15%	50%
East Asian Pacific Affairs	2465	20%	11%	31%
European Affairs	3294	20%	13%	33%
Near Eastern Affairs	1155	28%	14%	42%
South Central Asian Affairs	608	45%	17%	62%
Western Hemisphere Affairs	2555	26%	10%	36%
Total	11462	26%	12%	38%

In what specific field of education do they work? What is the employment situation for family members returning to the US?

While the State Department provides a number of resources for family members seeking employment, many spouses/partners remain unaware of them. FLO organizes a spousal orientation for newcomers to the FS (held concurrently with officer training),

Employment, from page 1.

The Report provides a helpful table (above) summarizing the family member employment situation by geographic region:

The Report also shows that employment inside the Mission is trending upward in recent years. Outside of the Mission, 30 percent of family members work in education, 15 percent freelance, 13 percent work on the local economy, and 11 percent each telecommuted and ran a home business (refer to the Report for more information).

While the Report provides some insight into the world of family member employment overseas, it also leaves many questions unanswered:

Of the 62 percent of spouses/partners not working in 2012, how many were looking for work? How were they searching for a job? What challenges did they encounter?

How does family member employment break down by government department/agency? Are spouses/partners from any particular agency more likely to work or not to work?

What are family members' professional backgrounds and work experiences? In which fields are they working and/or seeking employment? How many gave up their careers to follow their partners around the world? In what capacity do they expect to find employment?

In which *specific capacity* are spouses/partners working outside of the Mission (e.g., of the 30 percent of family members working in education, how many are part-time vs. full-time employed?

which reviews employment resources. However, not all spouses receive that briefing, for various reasons. Often, those spouses who do attend are too overwhelmed during that period to remember all the information presented.

FLO plans to release a new brochure outlining family member employment and training options in spring 2013. Following are some highlights from that brochure, along with other resources. I linked relevant websites whenever possible but URLs can move and become inactive over time. In that case, a simple Google search using the resource or program name along with "state.gov" will usually bring up the new link with relevant information.

I hope that this series of employment articles will spark a conversation about family members' experiences and challenges in their employment process so that future resources can be adjusted to fit everyone's needs. I am very grateful for the many FLO employees who helped me understand the currently available programs and resources and I am thankful to the many spouses/partners who shared their experiences.

An upcoming article will focus on ideas and suggestions for new and amended resources and practices to help spouses seek employment as we trail our partners around the globe. Please don't hesitate to send me an email with your thoughts or your ideas to contribute or to write about family member employment (nicole@aaafsw.org)!

Foreign Service Institute and Transition Center Resources

Overseas Briefing Center (OBC) at the Foreign Service Institute's Transition Center. Research employment overseas in the "post briefing boxes" or email OBC (FSIOBCInfoCenter@state.gov) or FLO (FLOAskEmployment@state.gov) to receive post-specific spousal employment records.
<http://www.state.gov/m/fsi/tc/c6954.htm>

Overview of training options at FSI for family members and how to register: keep in mind that the needs of the Department come first and that EFM spaces are on a "space-available" basis and with permission of the course coordinator; material from classroom classes is currently not available to spouses outside of the US. FSI is presently working on developing a spousal employment webinar that family members abroad can attend virtually.

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/195741.pdf>

Training Toolkit for Employees and EFMs

- **Outline of Transition Center services** and brief course descriptions:
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/64896.pdf>
- **List of "MQ" courses** specific to family member employment.
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/201169.pdf>
- **Schedule of upcoming MQ classes.**
<http://www.state.gov/m/fsi/tc/fslstraining/c48066.htm>
- **List of functional training courses.**
<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/c21648.htm>

For Family Members Currently Serving Overseas

- **Checklist for Overseas Employment.** A summary of training and resources to utilize before moving abroad.
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/135567.pdf>

Contact the **Community Liaison Office Coordinator (CLO)** at post to be added to the post newsletter, which lists job openings. The CLO can also send family members a copy of the FAMER.

Online Resources and Programs for Spousal Employment *Inside* the Mission

Hiring Mechanisms. This document outlines type of employment options and eligibility.
<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/c21641.htm>

Executive Order 12721 (Non-Competitive Eligibility). EFMs who have worked 52 weeks or longer in an "appropriate funded position" abroad, are eligible for non-competitive appointments to the Civil Service upon return to the US.
<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/c21651.htm>

Family member employment requirements for positions in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Pakistan.
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/153249.pdf>

Expanded Professional Associates Program (EPAP). Established in 2008, this program (the only one run under FLO) provides full-time employment for spouses on the same level as entry level Officers (must commit one year). Spouses can apply once a year and must pass a business writing test before they can formally apply.

- **Overview.**
<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/c41174.htm>
- **Program description.**
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/203328.pdf>

Professional Associates Program. Separate from EPAP, the focus is on filling hard-to-fill (officer) positions that are then opened to EFMs, who must commit one year of employment.
<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/c21619.htm>

Consular Associates Program. This program allows EFMs to work in consular sections overseas.
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/29441.pdf>

Why You Need a Virtual Private Network

When my in-laws moved to Bangladesh for their first Foreign Service assignment in 1977, leaving America meant leaving everything—from family to financial institutions—behind.

Back then, people used telegrams, handwritten letters and long-distance phone calls to manage their affairs and to keep in touch with loved ones in the US. Unfortunately, even with home leave to help relieve the cultural isolation overseas, my poor husband seems to have spent a great deal of his adolescence under the impression that “Journey” was very nearly the only band producing cassette tapes in America.

Two decades later, it’s hard to imagine the Foreign Service without access to the Internet. Where would we be without Skype, email, mobile banking, Hulu, or (heaven forbid) Amazon?

Yet, as game-changing as these websites, services, and applications are, few of them are perfectly secure, or even accessible, from overseas. Whether you’re posted to Austria or to Zimbabwe, staying connected abroad to popular US web-based services often requires a few extra steps.

Fortunately for Foreign Service families looking for secure online transactions or access to American entertainment websites, a virtual private network (VPN) subscription and a few simple digital housekeeping tricks are all you need to stay connected.

A VPN subscription is a legal, digital way to securely access the Internet via a remote bank of computer servers located elsewhere in the world. If you are in China, but your VPN provider’s server is in California, then the Internet “thinks” your computer is in California as well. The VPN encrypts all of the data traveling between the VPN servers and your computer, shielding your Internet usage from both hackers and foreign government censors alike.

Large corporations and government entities have used VPN services for years to provide employees with secure, remote access to proprietary software and sensitive data. In fact, the State Department’s OpenNet is an example of a VPN. With a login and password, OpenNet users can access vital programs and files from around the world. As we increasingly use web-based applications to do everything from storing vital documents to watching television, VPN technology has also become a “must-have” for many expatriates.

The first, most obvious, reason for purchasing a home VPN subscription is security. In parts of the

world where identity theft is big business, unsecured wireless networks—such as you might use at a coffee shop, or that may be installed in your home—are a boon to would-be malevolent hackers.

A VPN subscription circumvents this risk by altering your computer’s digital address and encrypting its connection to the Internet, rendering your computer essentially “invisible” on an unsecured wireless network. On a relatively fast Internet connection, the encryption process is nearly instantaneous and barely noticeable.

As compelling as digital security may be, most home VPN subscriptions are ultimately motivated not by security, but by the desire to access to popular websites from overseas. It may be called the World Wide Web, but, due to copyright restrictions, many popular web-based services are inaccessible to users outside the United States without a VPN subscription to alter the user’s Internet Protocol (IP) address.

Never mind what your passport says, media-streaming websites like Pandora.com, Hulu.com and Netflix.com are only available to Internet users with an American IP address. Some ebooks face similar overseas licensing and copyright restrictions. Families living in countries with a reputation for widespread credit card fraud may find they cannot access some shopping websites without a VPN subscription.

And, of course, there are some countries, like the People’s Republic of China, in which government censors utilize IP addresses to block reader access to everything from Facebook to ESPN to news sites or even weather reports.

Some people choose to use free web-based VPN programs. A quick Google search will turn up a host of free options such as ProXPN, GPass, and CyberGhost, designed largely to circumvent government censors. Hotspot Shield is a very popular security-focused option that offers a free-with-advertisements VPN download for users that are more concerned with privacy and identity theft prevention. While the price of these services can’t be beat, their efficacy often suffers from slow load times, user overload and constant cat-and-mouse battles with foreign governments seeking to limit their use.

For a single person or tandem couple posted overseas and allowed to use their (VPN-linked) work computers for limited personal use, a free VPN service may be more than adequate for nights and weekends. On the other hand, when one or more

family members require unfettered Internet access throughout the day, or if the household desires easy, legal access to American movies, music and TV shows, it is advisable to invest in a paid VPN subscription through a reputable provider. Rates vary depending on the level of service, data encryption and the number of computers connected to the VPN. Providers typically bill annually, with prices ranging from about \$12 to \$20 per month.

At posts where the host government heavily censors the Internet, Strong VPN and VyperVPN are well-regarded options. I subscribe to a Strong VPN plan and enjoyed minimally disrupted Internet access throughout a two-year tour in China, even as most other VPN services suffered outages. Whichever VPN service you choose, it is a good idea to sign up for it and to install the required software on your computer before leaving the US as some countries censor access to VPN websites and providers.

VPN connections work best with a fast Internet connection, but we can't all be posted to Singapore, Israel or Bulgaria (the three countries with the fastest Internet connections in the world as of January, 2013). If bandwidth issues in your host country make it difficult to use Skype or stream media files, with or without a VPN, there are a few simple things you can try to improve the speed of your Internet connection.

Power surges and outages wreak havoc on modems, causing Internet speeds to drop dramatically especially after a string of power failures. If your home is prone to frequent power outages, try turning your modem off and on again once power returns. This simple step alone may boost your Internet connection, at least temporarily. If you can, invest in a high-quality modem and use shorter cables to minimize the distance the signal has to travel.

While connecting to a wireless network is one of the most convenient ways to access the Internet, it is rarely the fastest, especially in countries in which homes are built out of signal-sucking concrete blocks. Try using an ethernet cable to connect your computer directly to your modem instead. A high-quality ethernet connection will almost always be faster than a wireless connection.

Living at hardship posts often means combatting far more dust, dirt and grime than we are used to in the US. This dirt doesn't just make it difficult to keep the house clean, it can also affect the efficacy of your computer equipment. Use cans of compressed air and a regular dusting routine on your modem, routers and computers to help enhance performance and internet speeds. While you're at it, make sure to keep

your computers digitally "clean" as well by clearing browsing histories and cookies and running antivirus and antispyware programs regularly. This simple step allows your web browser to make better use of whatever bandwidth is available in your area.

Password-protect your wireless network and limit the number of devices connected to it. Smartphones, e-readers, tablets, iPods and similar devices often automatically connect to your wireless network whether you need them to or not. Simply turning off the wireless connection on these devices while reading ebooks, listening to downloaded music, or playing offline games, will greatly improve the Internet speed on other devices in your home.

If streaming web content continues to be difficult after trying the above tips, try downloading instead of streaming television shows, music and movies from websites such as iTunes and Amazon, instead of streaming them. (With a VPN subscription, it is possible to access not just US-based but also British, European and other media sites as well.)

If your landline-based network is unusably slow, investing in a local cellular data plan may be another way to increase your access. Cellphone networks are more reliable than landlines in many regions around the world.

If you don't have space for additional media files on your hard drive or if you would rather not store downloaded files on your personal computer, "cloud-based" services allow users to access movies, television shows and music remotely. Putlocker.com is an especially popular option for users seeking to store media files on the web. SugarSync, Amazon's Cloud Drive and Apple's iCloud are other options.

With a VPN subscription, cloud storage and some regular computer maintenance, it's easier than ever to take advantage of everything the Internet has to offer, no matter where in the world you are.

Danielle Dumm is a traveling, writing, shutterbug Mama for whom home is wherever her FSO husband and son are—currently New Delhi, India. She blogs about parenthood abroad at hotpotdc.wordpress.com and all things India at danielledumm.com.



Online Resources and Programs for Spousal Employment *Outside* the Mission

List of countries with bilateral and de-facto work agreements. Keep in mind that employment outside of the mission requires Chief of Mission approval

- **Overview.**
<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/c24338.htm>
- **Country listing.**
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/133570.pdf>
- **Specific texts of agreements.**
<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/c24173.htm>

Home-based business guide. Regulations, frequently asked questions, success stories, and insights related to running a home-based business while abroad.
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/62809.pdf>

Global Employment Initiative (GEI). Regional Global Employment Advisors (GEAs) provide career coaching and networking assistance to spouses seeking employment in the local economy. Not every post has a GEA present but their virtual assistance is offered to all spouses no matter their location. Refer to the Home-Based Business guide (above) for more information on GEI and success stories. Email GEI@state.gov to locate your GEA or check OBC's Post Info to Go.

- **Overview.**
<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/c21627.htm>
- **Brochure.**
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/157726.pdf>
- **Corporate information.**
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/189417.pdf>
- **Preparing your resume for the global market.**
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/11956.pdf>

Training Resource for Spouses Abroad

FLO Professional Development Fellowship (PDF). These yearly fellowships are available to adult spouses and partners of direct-hire US Government employees under Chief of Mission authority abroad in order to maintain, enhance and/or develop their professional skills (e.g., course work, conference attendance). Fellowships up to \$2,500 are granted with the applicant being responsible for a minimum

of at least 25% of the proposed cost. The program announcement comes out every March. Applications are usually due by mid-May. To date, FLO has awarded more than \$1.3 million in fellowships to nearly 800 family members. For additional information, e-mail FLOAskEmployment@state.gov or call (202)647-1076.

<http://www.state.gov/m/dghr/flo/c21642.htm>

Publications

- **“Realities of Foreign Service Life”** Vols. 1 & 2. See <http://www.aafsw.org> for purchasing information.
- **Foreign Service Journal.** Special Issue on Family Member Employment. April, 2012.
<http://www.afsa.org/FSJ/0412/index.html>
- **Essays and articles on family member employment.**
<http://www.aafsw.org/articles-advice/fs-spouse-workingvolunteering/>

Social Media

- **“PROPS - Professional Partners of FS.”**
http://www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=4413170&trk=anet_ug_hm
- **AAFSW Facebook Page.**
<https://www.facebook.com/aafsw>
- **“EFMs Helping Other EFMs Find Employment.”**
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/358778958203/>

This article will be archived on the AAFSW website for permanent reference. Our spouse employment resources section will also be updated with these links and more very soon.

Nicole Schaefer-McDaniel grew up in Germany and the US. A social scientist by training, she was finally convinced to try life in the Foreign Service. Currently posted to Vienna, Austria, she blogs about life abroad and raising two little world travelers at



whereintheworldislucagaleno.blogspot.com.

Classified Advertising

AAFSW now offers free classified advertisements to its members. The *Global Link* is sent by mail and electronically to our members and to Community Liaison Offices worldwide for a sizable total monthly readership.

Do you have a business or service that you would like to advertise to the Foreign Service community? Send a brief notice (100 words or less) to office@aafsw.org for approval with the subject line AD FOR GLOBAL LINK. If you have a business website, it can be hyperlinked in the electronic version of the newsletter, so please include your URL. Advertisements will run on a space-available basis for one month at a time and will rotate in order of receipt.

We also accept classified advertising for real estate rentals and sales, as well as sales of other items (cars etc.) on our website, www.aafsw.org. View or submit ads on the website. Not a member of AAFSW? Join now! Apply online at our website: <http://www.aafsw.org/aafsw/membership.htm>.

Hardship Homemaking

Are you currently living in a country with little or no access to the things that make your new house feel like a home? Visit the Hardship Homemaking blog to find tips on baking cakes at high altitude, making your own margarine or brown sugar, or entertaining kids during super-long flights.

Hardship Homemaking is a back-to-basics resource for recipes, tricks, and tips to make life overseas at hardship posts easier. It is a collaborative Foreign Service effort and we are always accepting new contributors—you don't even have to be living in a hardship post!

Please email your ideas and submissions to us at hardshiphomemaking@yahoo.com.

For more information on how to contribute, visit us at

www.hardshiphomemaking.blogspot.com

Welcome To Our New And Returning Members

Ceres Busa	Patricia Nelson-Douvelis
Claudia Ceballos-Rivera	Margaret S. Paton
Valerie Davis	Marissa Polnerow
Sandra Dembski	Prsemek Praszczalek
Adah Ellenport	Lauren Propst
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Raquel Lima Miranda	Svetlana G. Wilson

Thank you to this generous donor

The Center Family Foundation.



<http://www.facebook.com/aafsw>

March Program: Women's History Month

Please reply no later than Thursday, March 14, 2013. The event takes place on Tuesday, March 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the Department of State (C Street Entrance.) The cost for this event is \$15 per person for members and guests. Send this form with payment to:

AAFSW Reservations
4001 North Ninth Street, Suite 214
Arlington, Virginia 22203

You may also reserve and pay online in the members-only section at www.aafsw.org.

March 19 Program

Name (as you wish it to appear on the name tag)

Date of Birth and Passport or Driver's License Number

Telephone

Name of guest(s), D.O.B.'s and Passport or Driver's License Numbers

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